

**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)
Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges
Associated with Industrial Activity (MSGP)
Reconnaissance Inspection Report**

Project name: Owyhee Meat Co. Inc.

Project address: 3408 Industrial Road
Homedale, Idaho 83628

Map coordinates: Lat: 43.612236 / Long: -116.924212

Date of inspection: 07/02/2018

Weather Conditions: Sunny and warm, high in mid-80's (F)

Existing NPDES ID or tracking number (if any): IDU100500

Facility contact and phone number: Jim Robertson, President
Owyhee Meat Co. Inc.
Homedale, Idaho 83628
208-337-3628
owyhee.meat.co.10@gmail.com

Brief description of the nature of the business: Meat Packing

Primary SIC code(s): 2011 (NAICS 311611)

Nearest surface water: Nash Drain (aka: Town Drain) to Snake River

EPA inspector and contact information: Patrick Stoll, EPA/R10/OCE/MIRE/IOO
208-378-5772

Report prepared by: Patrick Stoll, EPA/R10/IOO

Did this inspection include an on-site visit? No on-site visit; observations made from public right-of-way.

Information source for this inspection: Personal observations, contact information from company web site, Homedale City Engineer Brett Smith, and Darvis Opp with the Southwest District Health Department.

Inspection Background

The Owyhee Meat Company (OMC), also known as Owyhee Meat Pack, was referred to EPA by Kati Carberry, a Watershed Coordinator in the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's Boise Regional Office. Ms. Carberry was concerned about the proximity of the Homedale, Idaho facility to an irrigation ditch discharging to the nearby Snake River, approximately 0.25 miles from the facility (see Photos 1-2). OMC is located on the southeast corner of the location where the Nash Drain flows under Industrial Road (SRC Sports/Badiola Area, an Animal Feeding Operation I visited later that same day, is located immediately upstream from OMC on the opposite side of Industrial Road/the Nash Drain).

Site Visit

I arrived at OMC shortly after 12:00 pm on Friday, September 21, 2018. As I observed the facility from the roadway, I noted a few vehicles entering and exiting the facility's parking lot (see Photo 3). From the road, I was not able to get a good look at the area at the rear of the facility. I walked back to the opposite side of the Nash Drain and walked along a dirt road that ran parallel along the northwest side of the Nash Drain. Unfortunately, the trees and vegetation were too thick to see the backside of OMC (see Photo 4). Initial research suggested that OMC is likely subject to regulation under Sector U3 (Meat Packing Plants – SIC code 2011) of the Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity (MSGP). An on-site visit would be necessary to verify the facility's status.

Follow-Up Information

In addition to concerns about industrial stormwater runoff from OMC, I was also interested in learning how the facility manages all the septic waste generated at the facility. The City of Homedale does operate an NPDES permitted wastewater treatment plant (a lagoon system followed by chlorination). Soon after my visit to OMC, I contacted Brett Smith, the Homedale City Engineer (208-880-2719). Mr. Smith told me the OMC had contacted him a few years earlier to ask about discharging waste to the treatment plant. Mr. Smith claims that he told OMC that the City's treatment system could not handle the volume and biological oxygen demand (BOD) loading of the waste from OMC.

I next contacted Darvis Opp, an environmental inspector with the Southwest District Health Department (208-455-5406). Mr. Opp told me that he was familiar with OMC. According to Mr. Opp, OMC had hired a company (may have been Alternate Wastewater Systems in Nampa, Idaho) to install a Bio-Metrics treatment system a few years earlier. The system reportedly utilized subsurface treatment tanks and a drain field to treat the wastewater generated at OMC.

Inspection Conclusions

Given the nature of the OMC operations, it is likely that the facility may be subject to the MSGP requirements applicable to Sector U3 for industrial stormwater runoff from the site. It may also be worthwhile to verify that the wastewater treatment system described to me by Mr. Opp is in place and operating properly (i.e., not discharging to the Nash Drain or nearby Snake River).

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Report Completion Date:

2/27/2019

Inspector:

Patrick Stoll,
EPA/R10/OCE/MIRE/IOO

[Signature]

Owyhee Meat Company; Homedale, Idaho – Photo Log
Reconnaissance Inspection, September 21, 2018

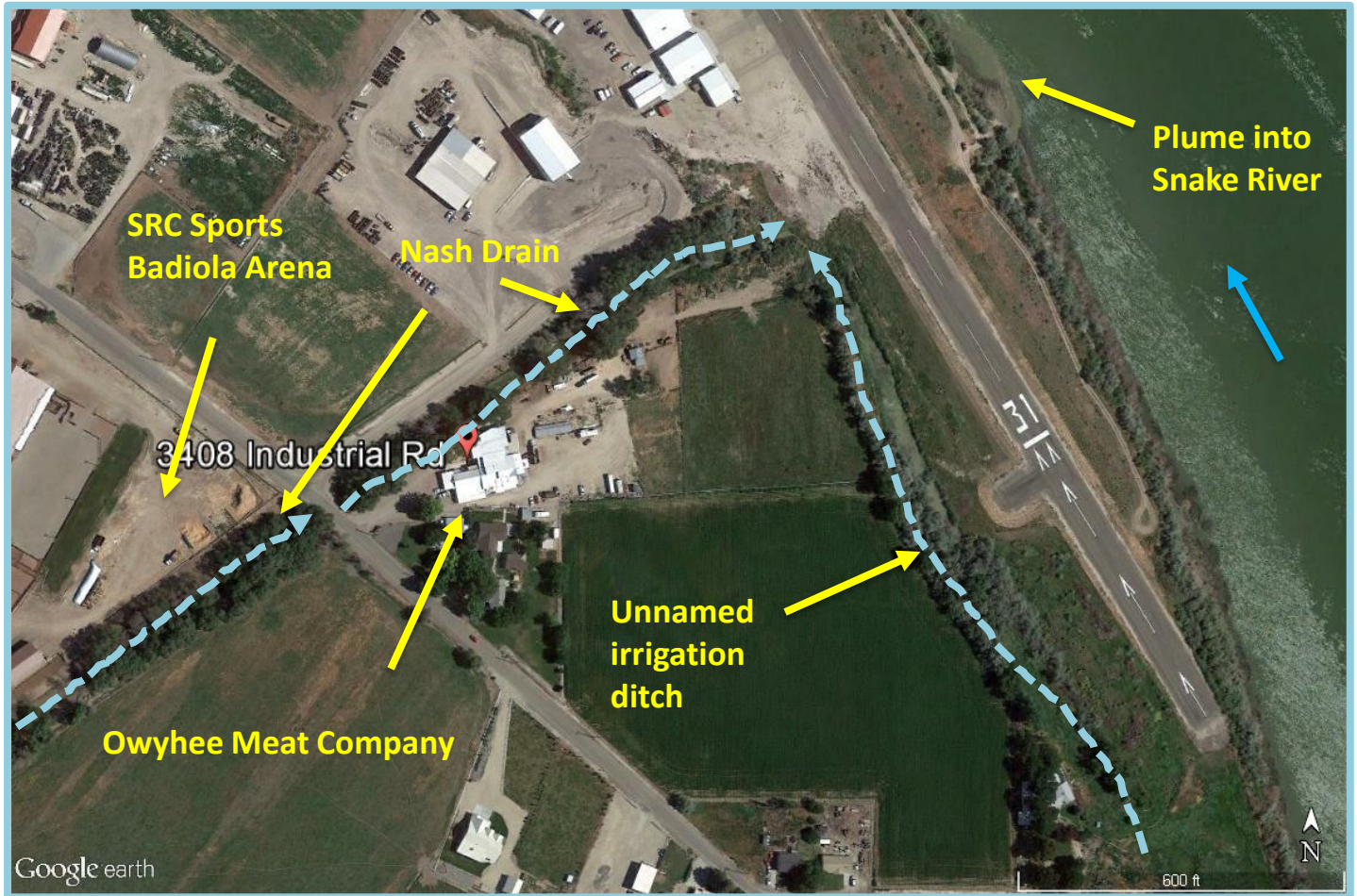


Photo No. 1 – from *Google Earth Pro* (imagery date 7/16/2018)
This is an overview of the Owyhee Meat Company location. The source of the plume into the river appears to be coming from above the Owyhee Meat Company.

Owyhee Meat Company; Homedale, Idaho – Photo Log
Reconnaissance Inspection, September 21, 2018

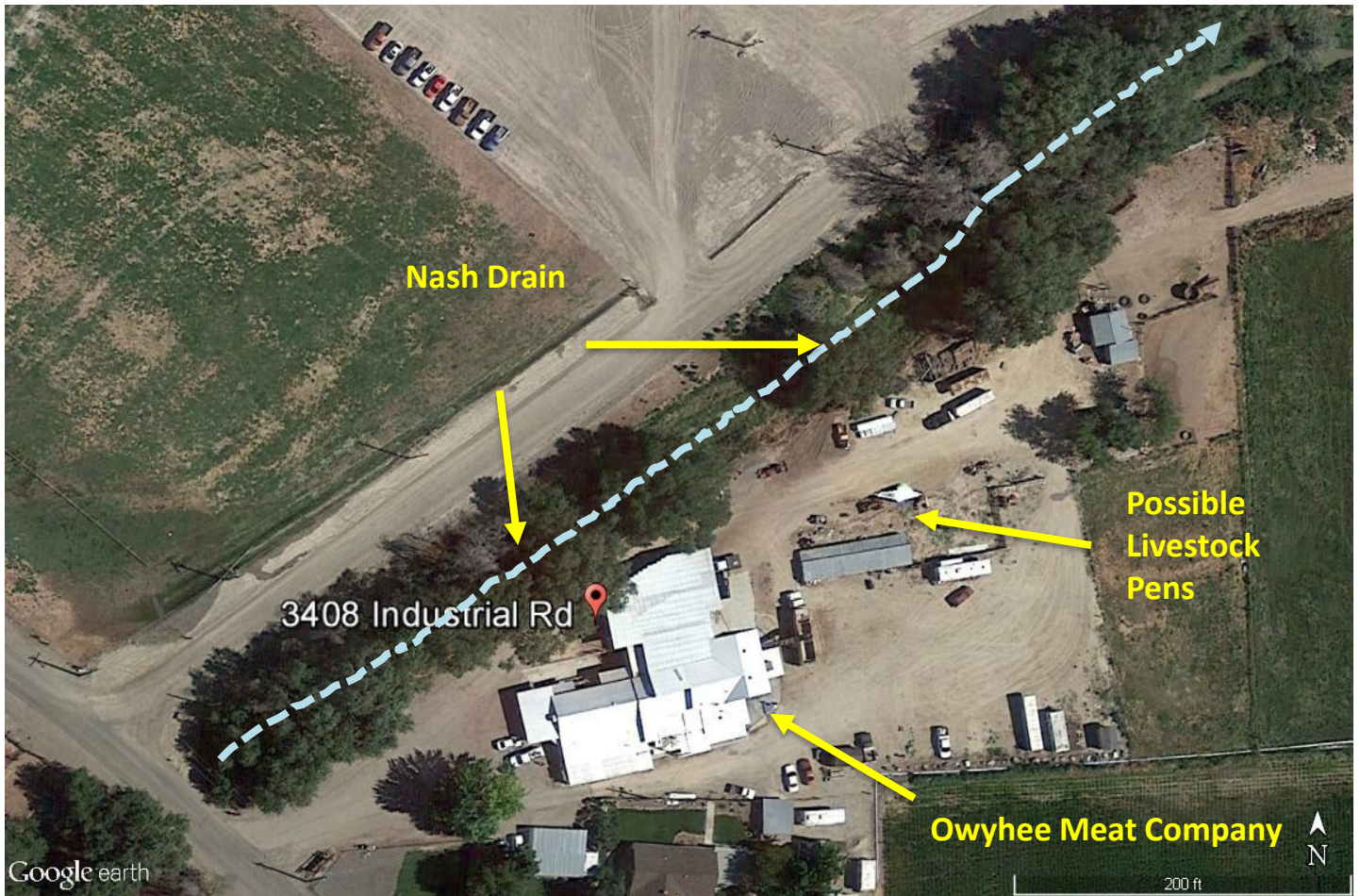


Photo No. 2 – from *Google Earth Pro* (imagery date 7/16/2018)
This is a closer view of the Owyhee Meat Company.

Owyhee Meat Company; Homedale, Idaho – Photo Log
Reconnaissance Inspection, September 21, 2018



Photo No. 3 (P1030751)

Facing northeast – this is the exterior/front side of the Owyhee Meat Company from Industrial Road.

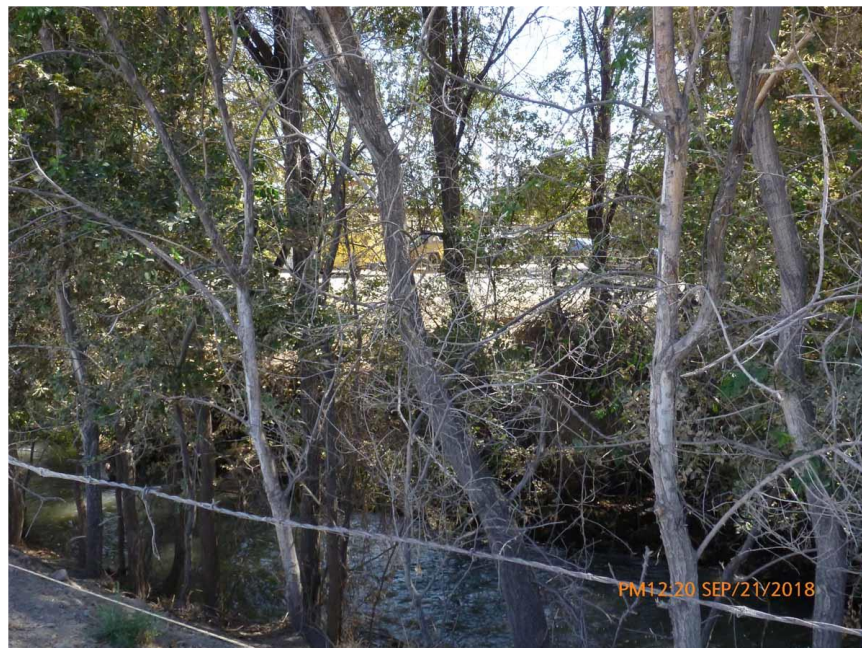


Photo No. 4 (P1030753)

Facing southeast – the Owyhee Meat Company is barely visible through the trees on the far side of the Nash Drain.